Ozello Water Association, Inc.
2024 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

"We are pleased to present to you this year's 2024 "Annual Water Quality Report"). This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is The Northern West-Central Groundwater Basin of the Floridan Aquifer. The water is chlorinated for disinfection purposes and distributed from three interconnected water treatment facilities consisting of eight wells.

The largest of these facilities is the Charles A. Black 1 Treatment Plant located in the Citrus Hills area. *"If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact our General Manager Gary Bibeau at (352) 795 5331. We encourage our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. Ozello Water Association, Inc routinely monitors contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. Except where indicated otherwise, this report is based on the results of our monitoring for the period of Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2024. Data obtained before Jan. 1, 2024, and presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.*

Terms and Abbreviations

"Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology."

"Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety."

"Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow."

"Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters."

"Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants."

"Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants

"Million fibers per liter (MFL): measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers."

"Millirem per year (mrem/yr): measure of radiation absorbed by the body."

"Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person."

"'ND' means not detected and indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis."

"Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/l): one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample."

"Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l): one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample."

"Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or picograms per liter (picograms/l): one part by weight of analyte to 1 quadrillion parts by weight of the water sample."

"Parts per trillion (ppt) or nanograms per liter (nanograms/l): one part by weight of analyte to 1 trillion parts by weight of the water sample."

"Picocurie per liter (pCi/L): measure of the radioactivity in water."

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radium 226 + 228 or combined radium (pCi/L)	9/21	N	1.14	ND-1.14	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (µg/L)	9/21	N	0.38	0.27-0.38	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	5/23	N	0.014	ND-0.014	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	5/23	N	0.073	ND-0.073	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth when at the optimum level of 0.7 ppm
Lead (point of entry) (ppb)	5/23	N	0.33	ND-0.33	0	15	Residue from man-made pollution such as auto emissions and paint; lead pipe, casing, and solder
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	4/24	N	1.4	0.11-1.4	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	5/23	N	6.5	4.8-6.5	N/A	160	Saltwater intrusion, leaching from soil

Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
2,4-D (ppb)	2/24,5/24 &8/24	N	0.35	ND-0.35	70	70	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

Volatile Organic Contaminants

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Ethylbenzene (ppb)	5/23	N	0.24	ND-0.24	700	700	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Xylenes (ppm)	7/24	N	2.0	ND-0.24	10	10	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories

Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	Level Detected (average)	Range of Detection (of multiple samples)	Likely Source of Contamination
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS) (ppb)	1/24 7/24	0.0019	ND - 0.0037	Discharge from manufacturing and industrial chemical facilities, Use of certain consumer products, occupational exposures and certain firefighting activities
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) (ppb)	1/24 7/24	0.015	0.010 - 0.019	Discharge from manufacturing and industrial chemical facilities, Use of certain consumer products, occupational exposures and certain firefighting activities
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) (ppb)	1/24 7/24	0.018	0.011 – 0.025	Discharge from manufacturing and industrial chemical facilities, Use of certain consumer products, occupational exposures and certain firefighting activities

"The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

(B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.

(D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

(E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least some small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426- 4791.

Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-products

Disinfectant or Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL or MRDL Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	1-12/23	N	1.1	1.00-1.20	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	MCL Violation (Y/N)	Level Detected	Range of Results	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	7/24	N	0.98	0.98	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	7/24	N	4.06	3.5-4.06	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper (Tap Water)

Contaminant and Unit of Measurement	Dates of sampling (mo/yr)	AL Exceeded (Y/N)	90th Percentile Result	No. of sampling sites exceeding the AL	Range of Tap Sample Results	MCLG	AL (Action Level)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (tap water) (ppm)	9/23	N	0.13	0	.027-.17	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (tap water) (ppb)	9/23	N	0.0033	0	.0010-.0074	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and service lines connecting buildings to water mains; erosion of natural deposits

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Ozello Water Association, Inc. is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Ozello Water Association, Inc. and Gary Bibeau G.M. 352-795-5331. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at *https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.